

Serial No.: 10/751,099
Examiner: Kyung H. Shin

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed August 20, 2008. At the time of this Office Action, Claims 1-12 were pending. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case, allowing all of the pending claims based upon the remarks and amendments herein.

The August 20, 2008 Office Action rejected Claims 1-12 under 35 USC § 103(a).

Rejection of Claims 1-12 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Examiner rejected Claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crinion et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,181,699 ("Crinion") in view of Hussain et al., U.S. Patent No. 7,161,904 ("Hussain") and further in view of Denney et al., U.S. Patent Application No. 20030061623 ("Denney"). Claims 1 and 2 are independent claims.

However these cited references do not teach or disclose all of the limitations of Claims 1-12 as currently amended. Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 2, without adding any new matter, and respectfully assert that these claims as now presented are not anticipated by Crinion, Hussain and/or Denney. Support for the amendment to Claim 1 can be found at least at page 7, lines 18-22 and FIG. 4. Support for the amendment to Claim 2 can be found at least at page 4, lines 1-16 and FIG. 1.

None of the references, whether taken alone or in any reasonable combination, anticipate, disclose, teach, suggest or render obvious the present invention as now claimed.

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Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1 and 2, as amended, are patentable over the cited references.

Regarding the rejections of Claims 3-12, as these claims depend either directly or indirectly from independent Claim 2, and therefore incorporate all of the limitations therein, for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent Claim 2, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims are also patentable over the cited references.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all pending claims. If there are any matters that can be discussed by telephone to further the prosecution of this Application, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney at 512-306-8533 at the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Raymond M. Galasso
Reg. No. 37,832

Correspondence Address:

Alcatel Lucent
c/o Galasso & Associates, LP
P.O. Box 26503
Austin, Texas 78755-0503
(512) 306-8533 telephone
(512) 306-8559 fax

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